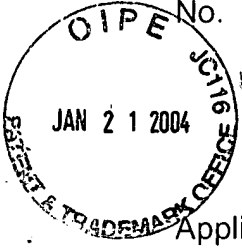


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of John D. Holder  
Serial No. 10/036,875  
Filed October 23, 2001  
Confirmation No. 5192  
For PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A SILICON MELT  
Examiner Robert M. Kunemund

Art Unit 1765

January 21, 2004

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,  
SIR:

This letter is in response to the Final Office Action dated November 25, 2003.

The Remarks begin on page 2.

The Conclusion begins on page 4.